



Welcome to the February 2025 edition of the [Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club](#) Newsletter! We'll try to keep you up-to-date with what's happening this month and any future events we're planning or are aware of. This newsletter is automatically distributed to club members, prospective future students who have reached out to us in the last year, and other interested amateur operators in the region. If you do not wish to receive these monthly newsletters, let us know and we can remove you from our distribution list. Alternatively, if you are not included on the mailing list, but would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, please reach out to our secretary.

### **February 2025 Club Meeting - Tuesday night February 4th, Stratford Town Center**

And here we are already in February. Can you believe it?! They say that it'll be another cold month with plenty of snow. So, weather permitting, our next monthly meeting will be held this coming Tuesday, February 4th, at the Stratford Town Centre. Start time: 7:00 P.M.

As always, everyone is welcome to attend, not just club members. If you're a licensed radio operator and would like to become a member, or you're perhaps interested in becoming licensed and would like to find out more about us and the hobby, then please come and join us. We would love to meet you. For anyone who would like to become a member, membership dues are \$30 for those who are not currently members of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). For RAC members, it's \$20 for the year. Our students and graduates from the 2024 classes are automatically members of the club for 2025. Our meetings run from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. (1900-2100) in the Southport room at the Stratford Town Centre on Shakespeare Drive. Alongside monthly club reports we usually enjoy an information exchange. Before the Christmas break, we learned about making physically short 80m/40m inverted V antennas.

### **Winter Field Day - January 25th, 2025**

By all accounts, Winter Field Day was a great success with lots of contacts being made despite the harsh winter conditions. (I hear Tim's hot coffee went a long way in battling the nasty cold..) Way to go, Team PE!! 🧑‍🦺🏆

### **New Basic Amateur Question Bank Released**

RAC and ISED have announced the acceptance and publication of the new question bank for the Basic Amateur license. ISED first published the [bank](#) on its site, followed by RAC's [comprehensive version](#) on the RAC site the following day. RAC also published an [update document](#) that lists the 201 new questions that will be going live with the new question bank

when it officially goes into operation on 15 July 2025. Until then, the existing question bank will remain in use while ISED updates its systems and exam generator software. The revised question bank was done entirely by a committee of RAC members who were teachers and examiners, and RAC then sent them to ISED for approval. ISED has agreed to the new and revised questions, and this will be the first wholesale update of the question bank in 16 years. The same committee has also mostly completed its review of the Advanced exam, and it will be going through the same approval process with ISED. The Advanced exam will likely debut in early 2026.

### **Orlando Hamcation - February 7th-9th, 2025**

The second largest annual hamfest in the world is about to take place in warm and sunny Orlando, Florida. The event is organized by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, and the exact location is Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Park, an 87-acre lakefront fairground. Event dates are Friday through Sunday, February 7th-9th. For anyone tempted to go down there and warm up, this is their website: <https://www.hamcation.com/> .

### **Contest Calendar - February**

[North American Sprint, CW](#) - 0000Z-0359Z, Feb 2, 2025

[CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest](#) - 0000Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 9, 2025

[ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW](#) - 0000Z, Feb 15 to 2400Z, Feb 16, 2025

[North American QSO Party, RTTY](#) - 1800Z, Feb 22 to 0559Z, Feb 23, 2025

### **Meetings and Events Calendar - February**

1, 8, 15, 22: Virtual Breakfast 2M nets, 8:00 A.M. (800) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

3: 2M Simplex net, at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on 146.550 MHz, hosted by Joel, VY2KW (to be confirmed)

4: Monthly club meeting

5, 12, 19, 26: Wednesday night 2M net at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

6,13, 16, 20, 27: Thursday night HF nets, on 3727 LSB (+/- QRM) at 7:00 P.M. (1900)

Feb 7-9 2025: [Orlando Hamcation](#)

### **Future Events:**

#### **World Amateur Radio Day**

April 18 2025 is World Amateur Radio Day and RAC is running a special [Get on the Air](#) event that day. This year, it happens to be the 100th anniversary of the creation of the [International Amateur Radio Union \(IARU\)](#). RAC will be getting on the air from each of the call areas. Any RAC member wanting to operate as VY2RAC should get a hold of Assistant Director Bill Glydon VY2LI or Regional Director Al Penney V01NO for coordination.

#### **Operation Manna / Chowhound**

April 25-27 2025 is the 80th anniversary of [Operation Manna / Chowhound](#), and it will be commemorated in the United Kingdom and Europe. This event recalls the work of Bomber Command in World War II to drop emergency food supplies behind Nazi lines to civilians in

Holland late in the War. The request is for teams of Radio Amateurs from around the world to come together on April 25th, 26th, and 27th 2025 to put on special event stations from interesting places to commemorate Operation Manna and Chowhound. The locations include in the Netherlands at an Operation Manna Drop Zone.

Three UK Teams: one at the International Bomber Command Centre, another at Former RAF Binbrook (an Operation Manna Airfield in the UK), and another at the 100th Bomb Group Museum Thorpe Abbots, representing the US operation Chowhound from a former Chowhound airfield.

Organizers are seeking Canadian, Australian and Polish operators from their respective countries to commemorate the international participation in operation Manna. 62 nationalities were part of RAF Bomber Command in WW2 with Poland, Australia and Canada making massive contributions. Also teams in the USA representing operation Chowhound. Anyone interested?

May 2-3 2025: [NEAR-Fest](#)

May 10: [SMART Symposium](#) in Springhill NS

May 16-18 2025: [Dayton Hamvention](#) - This year's theme is Radio Independence

June 6-7: [Canada Wide Science Fair](#) in Fredericton, featuring a RAC booth promoting Amateur Radio

June 7: First ever Atlantic QSO Party. Rules will be posted on their website and Facebook page.

They intend to have the Atlantic RAC callsigns count as multipliers.

June 28-29 2025: [Field Day](#)

September 6 2025: [Ottawa \(Carp\) 2025 Hamfest](#) and potential RAC AGM

Help Us Out!

Do you have something you would like to contribute to this newsletter? Drop us an email at [secretary@charlottetownarc.com](mailto:secretary@charlottetownarc.com).